

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, TW, CS

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM LUIS ALBERTO MONGE ON CHINA

REFERENCE: SAN JOSE 0117

1. EMBASSY MAY DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IN FORMULATING ITS RESPONSE TO SECRETARY-GENERAL MONGE'S LETTER TO THE AMBASSADOR ON US POLICY TOWARD CHINA.

2. THE UNITED STATES IS DETERMINED TO COMPLETE THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON THE BASIS OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE. IN HIS PACIFIC DOCTRINE SPEECH DECEMBER 7, PRESIDENT FORD REAFFIRMED THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO THIS POLICY. SUCH A POLICY SERVES NOT ONLY THE INTERESTS OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES, BUT THE BROADER INTERESTS OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY AS

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WELL.

3. THE SECRETARY AND DEPARTMENT PRINCIPALS HAVE PUBLICLY EXPLAINED OUR RATIONALE FOR SEEKING TO END A GENERATION OF MUTUAL ISOLATION AND HOSTILITY IN THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

(A) THERE CAN BE NO REAL ASSURANCE OF A PEACEFUL WORLD SO LONG AS ONE-QUARTER OF THE WORLD'S PEOPLE ARE EX-

CLUDED FROM THE FAMILY OF NATIONS.

(B) PEACE DEPENDS ON A STABLE GLOBAL EQUILIBRIUM, ESPECIALLY IN THE PACIFIC WHERE THE SECURITY CONCERNS OF FOUR GREAT POWERS INTERSECT. NORMALIZATION OF U.S. RELATIONS WITH THE PRC IS A CRUCIAL ELEMENT IN PRESERVING THIS EQUILIBRIUM.

(C) WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT OUR VALUES AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS ARE NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THOSE OF COMMUNIST POWERS, IN THE THERMONUCLEAR AGE THERE IS NO DECENT ALTERNATIVE TO THE EASING OF TENSIONS.

4. IN SEEKING NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH THE PRC, WE HAVE ACTED RESPONSIBLY ON MATTERS AFFECTING THE BASIC INTERESTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO. WE VALUE OUR TIES OF FRIENDSHIP WITH THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND ARE NOT UNMINDFUL OF THE VITALITY AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ITS SOCIETY.

5. THE US POSITION ON THE QUESTION OF TAIWAN WAS STATED IN THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE. THE US ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ALL CHINESE ON EITHER SIDE OF THE TAIWAN STRAIT MAINTAIN THERE IS BUT ONE CHINA OF WHICH TAIWAN IS A PART. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT DID NOT CHALLENGE THIS POSITION. IT REAFFIRMED ITS INTEREST IN A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE TAIWAN ISSUE BY THE CHINESE THEMSELVES. WITH THIS PROSPECT IN MIND, IT AFFIRMED THE ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF ALL U.S. FORCES AND MILITARY INSTALLATIONS FROM TAIWAN. IN THE MEANTIME, THE UNITED STATES STATED IT WOULD PROGRESSIVELY REDUCE ITS MILITARY PRESENCE IN TAIWAN AS TENSION IN THE AREA DIMINISHED. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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6. THE U.S. HAS REDUCED ITS MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE AREA IN ACCORD WITH THE COMMUNIQUE. FROM A PEAK OF APPROXIMATELY 10,000 PERSONNEL IN 1972, U.S. FORCES ON THE ISLAND HAVE BEEN REDUCED TO ABOUT 2,700 TODAY. OUR GRANT MILITARY ASSISTANCE HAS ALSO BEEN TERMINATED. TREMENDOUS PROGRESS IN TAIWAN OVER THE LAST 15 YEARS HAS ENABLED THE ROC TO PAY FOR MOST OF ITS DEFENSE. KISSINGER

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